

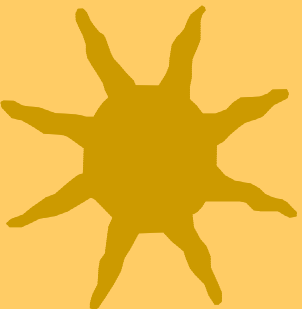


Advancing Onsite Management in Coastal South Carolina



Pilot Inspection & Maintenance Program
and

Onsite Inspector Training Program



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South Carolina OSDS Program

★ Statewide program

- Site evaluation
- System design
- Final inspection
- Permit fees don't support program

★ Regs currently being revised

★ No O&M inspections required

★ Many grassroots efforts for O&M starting



Folly Beach Pilot Inspection & Maintenance Program



Purpose: Develop model O&M program for coastal zone at local government level



★ RFP sent to all coastal cities

★ Folly Beach chosen

★ Steering Committee set up

★ \$10,000 grant matched by City



★ RFP for inspectors (training planned)



Folly Beach Pilot Inspection & Maintenance Program



★ Sensitive environment

★ Dependence on septic systems



★ Variety of residences

★ Ages & types of systems



★ Willingness to participate



Folly Beach Pilot Inspection & Maintenance Program



- ★ Community meeting and survey
- ★ Mandatory (150) → Voluntary (40)
- ★ Public education – workshops, local paper, local cable channel; inspection letters
- ★ No cost to citizens for inspections
- ★ Shared costs for 4 system replacements
- ★ January 1999 – March 2000
- ★ Ordinance development initiated
- ★ Being used as model in another coastal comm.



Folly Beach Pilot – tank lids





Folly Beach Pilot - Tank Evaluation





Folly Beach Pilot - Tank Evaluation



Proper Tools

- ☑ mirror
- ☑ flashlight
- ☑ gloves
- ☑ shovels, rakes
- ☑ roofing felt
- ☑ lid removal tools
- ☑ probe
- ☑ sludge judge





Folly Beach Pilot - Tank Evaluation



Pop Quiz:

**Does this system
need pumping?**

- ☐ **Yes**
- ☐ **No**
- ☐ **It's too late!**





Folly Beach Pilot - Drainfield

Evaluation

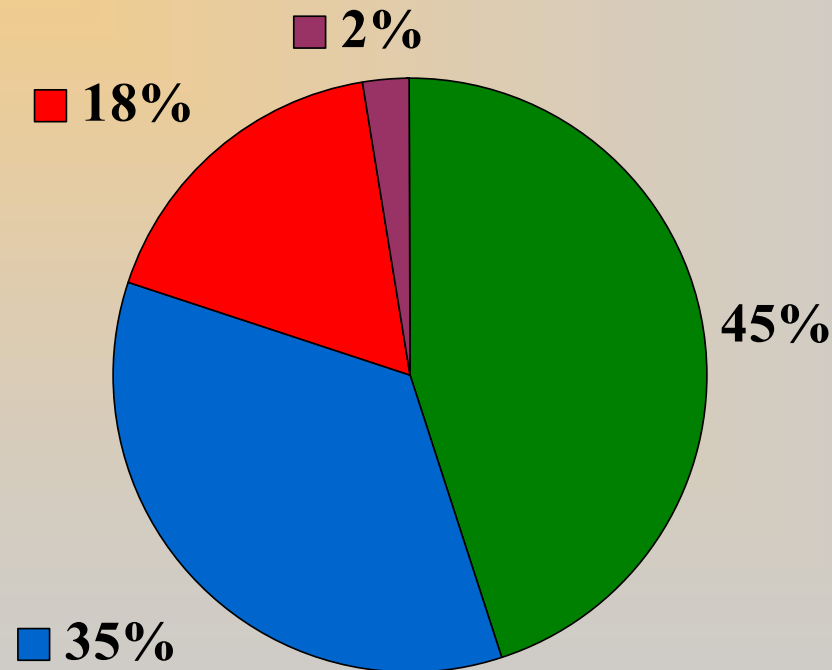




Folly Beach Pilot – Results



Performance Status of Inspected Systems



■ Good ■ OK ■ Failing ■ Not Determined



Onsite Inspector Training Program



- ★ Inspired by Folly Beach project
- ★ Modeled after Rhode Island program
- ★ Multi-agency cooperators
- ★ Steering Committee
- ★ Initial survey conducted

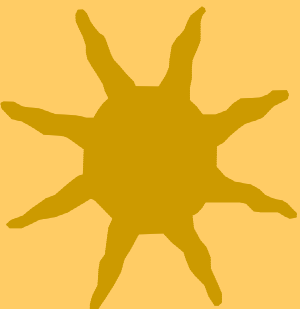


Septic System Survey in CZ



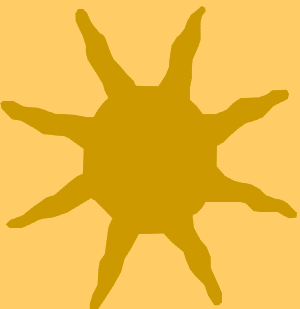
- ★ Purpose:

- 1) Address in-house concerns
- 2) Determine attitudes and behaviors
- 3) Determine need for trained inspectors

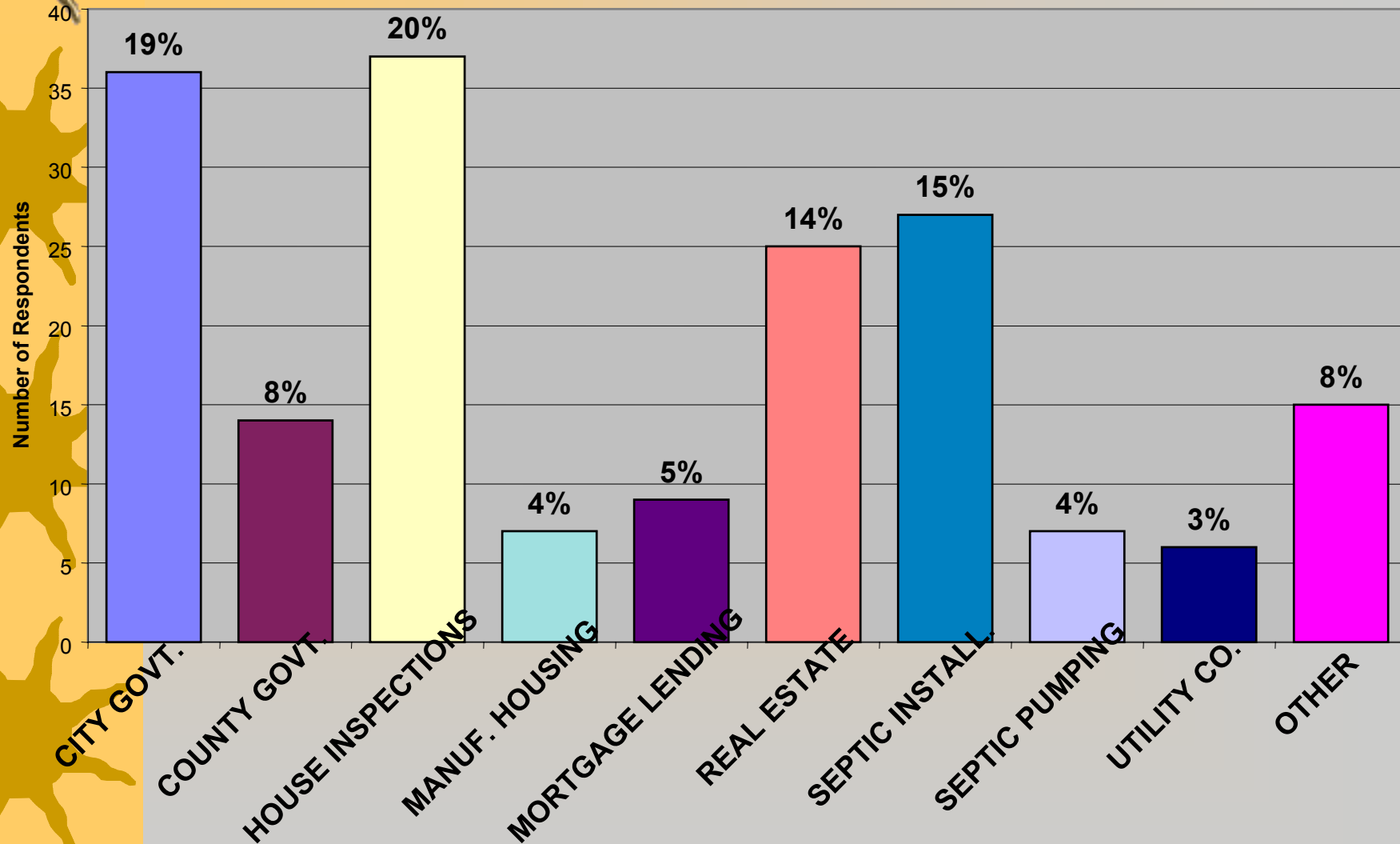


- ★ 580 surveys sent to stakeholders

- ★ 31% response rate



What is Your Professional Affiliation?



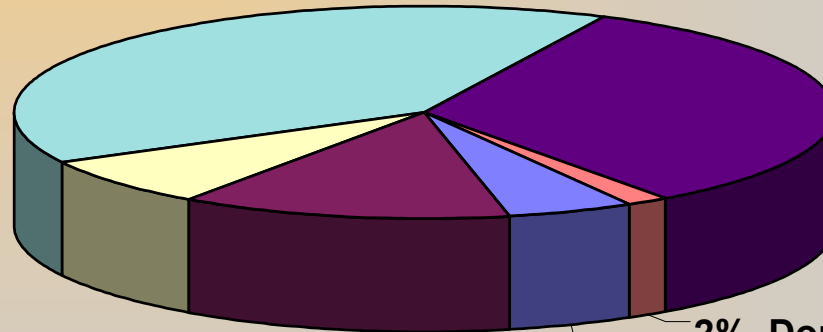


Most Homeowners with Septic Systems are Knowledgeable about Septic System Operation and Maintenance



39% Somewhat Disagree

33% Strongly Disagree



8% Neutral

2% Don't Know

5% Strongly Agree

13% Somewhat Agree

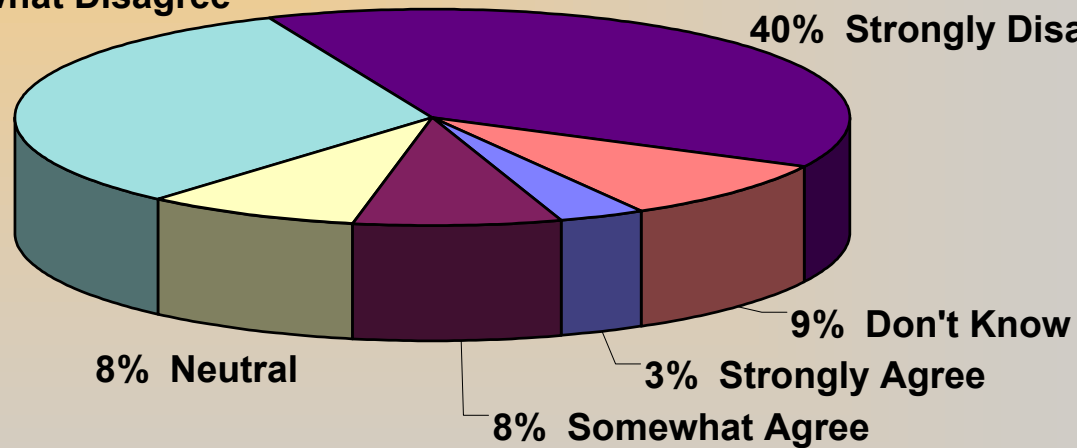


Buyers of Existing Homes on Septic Systems Receive Adequate Information about the Location and Condition of the System Before or At Closing



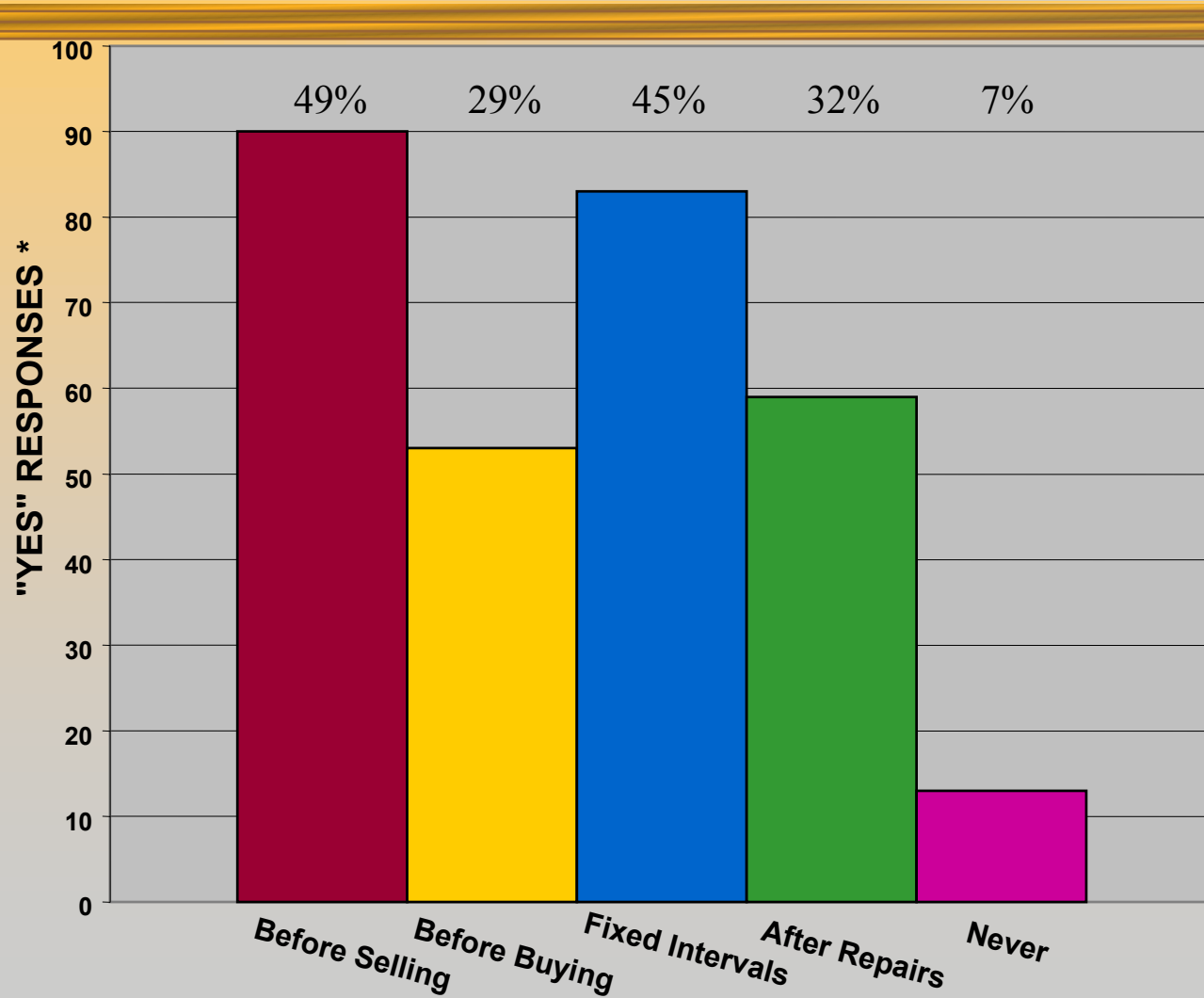
32% Somewhat Disagree

40% Strongly Disagree



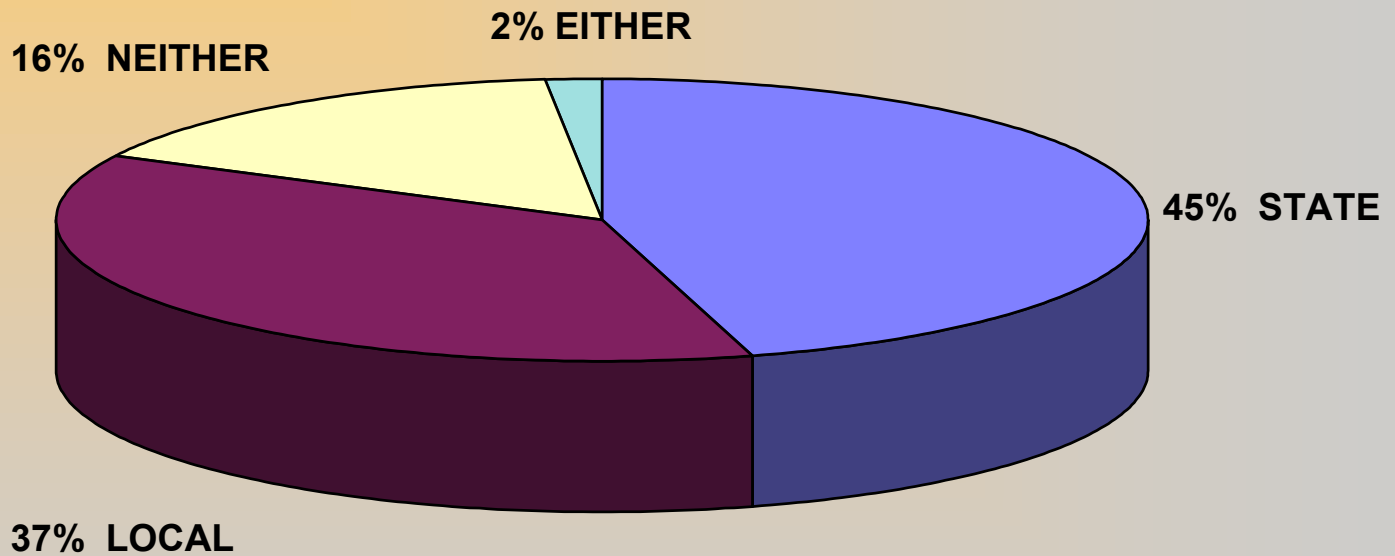
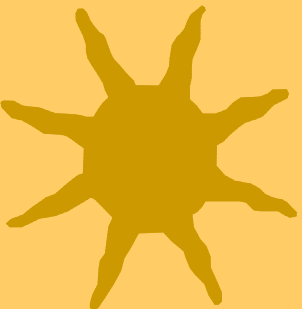


When Should Homeowners / Buyers be Required to Have Their Septic System Inspected?





If Septic System Inspections Were Required, Should It be a State or Local Government Requirement?

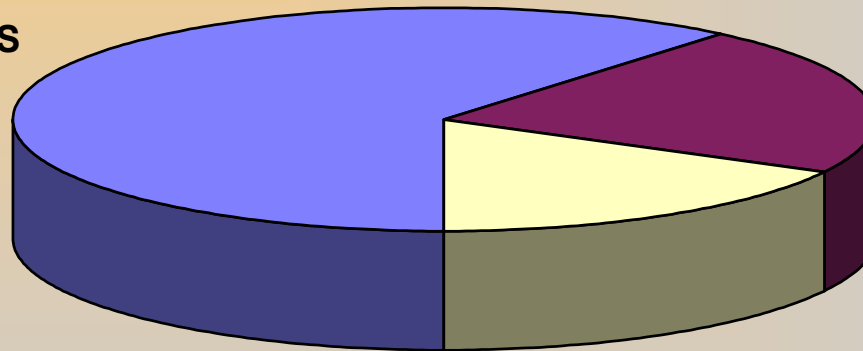




If Trained Inspectors Were Available, Would You Consider Requiring Inspections?



61% YES



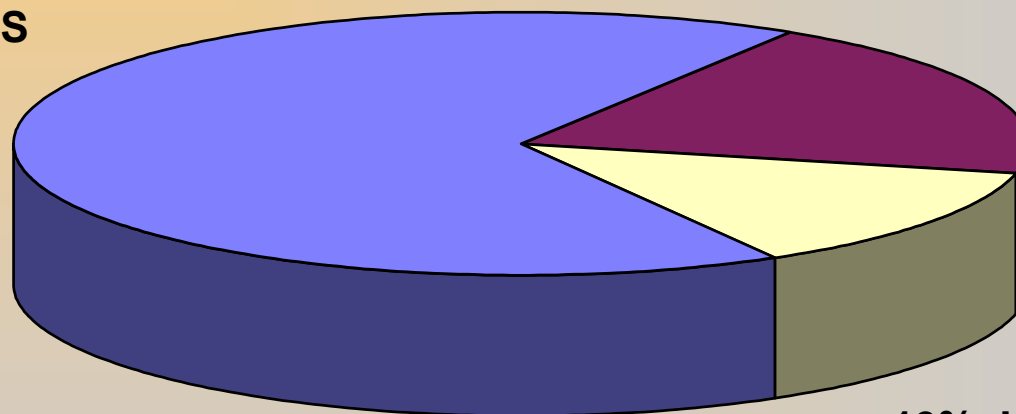
22% NO

17% DOES NOT APPLY



Do You See the Need for a Standardized Program to Train OSDS Inspectors?

67% YES



20% NO

13% UNCERTAIN



Next Steps for Training Program



- ★ Feasibility study report to Steering Comm.

- ★ Develop training materials



- ★ Plan & implement logistics for 3 classes

- ★ Publicity campaign

- ★ Conduct training and testing



- ★ Develop 2 videos

- ★ Final report to Steering Committee



Ultimate Goals



- ★ Continue training program
- ★ Have someone develop training center
- ★ Adoption of O&M ordinances by local governments
- ★ Adoption of new statewide regulations
- ★ Final approval of 6217 program
- ★ More funding from the feds!





Teamwork Is the Key

